

## Business Notices.

READER, you can have an enduring, always ready, and reliable Gode's Pen, exactly adapted to your style of writing, which will do your writing vastly cheaper than the Steel Pen. If you want, see "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword" in another column.

**CHAPPED HANDS, FACE, LIPS, &c.**—CHERRY-BLOSSOM and PINKETTES—HIGGINS & CO.'S CAMPHOR SOAP—These will keep the skin soft in the coldest weather. Sold by druggists generally. Price 25 cents. Sent by mail on receipt of 25 cents. HIGGINS & CO., 100 Broadway, New York, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

AT JEFFERS', 573 Broadway, Ladies' Bal-moral Boots at \$2 and \$2 1/2 pair; Boots, \$1.50 and \$1.75; Canisters, \$1.25 and \$1.37. None cheaper except inferior. All goods warranted at JEFFERS', No. 573 Broadway.

They leave to announce to the Ladies of New-York that I shall have the honor to introduce on Saturday, the 1st of March.

**THE ANKLE.**  
The most beautiful design for the protection of the ankle, giving support and strength, besides making an elegant touch to the top of the boot. Every lady should have a pair who desires to be well dressed. W. H. JEFFERS, No. 573 Broadway.

AT CANTRELL'S, No. 818 Broadway,  
Every cheap and desirable  
BALMORAL Boot for sale at \$2.50  
A pair of CLOVES for sale at \$2.50

**THOMSON'S-MARSH & CO.'S RADICAL CURE**  
Tons, No. 2 Vesey St. All kinds of Trusses, Supporters (Military Shoulder Braces and Abdominal Supporters) Gun-Tamers, Elastic Stockings, and Mechanical Appliances for the Treatment of all kinds of Indolent Indolence.

**THE GROVER & BAKER SEWING-MACHINE**  
Company manufacture Sewing or Lock-Stitch Machines, well as the celebrated GROVER & BAKER SEWING-MACHINE, and those who purchase at their establishment, No. 48 Broadway, can take their choice of either style, and have the privilege of exchanging if not satisfied.

**THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC**  
For 1862.  
This popular ALMANAC is now ready.  
Price 12 cents, 12 copies for \$1.00, 100 copies, \$9.00, postage paid. By Express, \$1.00. Cash orders solicited.  
We also supply back numbers of the Tribune Almanac for years 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862. Price 12 cents each, postage paid. Send orders to THE TRIBUNE, New York.

**LADIES' EAR-RINGS AND PINS.**  
One, Two, Three, and Five Dollars a set, at G. C. ALLEN'S, No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal St.

**SLEEVE BUTTONS AND STUDS.**  
One, Two, Three, and Five Dollars a set, at G. C. ALLEN'S, No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal St.

**ZOUAVE ANKLET**—something new for the Ladies—with Ladies' Mitts and Children's BALMORALS, Button-Gaiters, Elastic Stockings, &c., at  
MILNER & CO.'S, No. 287 Canal St.

**COUGHS.**—We seldom have occasion to experiment in medicines—less seldom do we recommend to others that for which we can so gratefully ourselves. We have, however, of late, on one or two occasions, had occasion to use some of Dr. BROWN'S TACONIA, and experienced relief therefrom. —[Christian Mirror, Portland.]

**THE TRIBUNE IN PHILADELPHIA.**—W. B. ZIEGLER, No. 10 South Third Street, is our Agent in PHILADELPHIA, and subscribers can have THE TRIBUNE promptly served by carriers in almost all parts of the city.

In the letter of our Kentucky correspondent we have a graphic account of the occupation of Bowling Green, together with some points concerning the real strength of the Rebels.

We print this morning a letter from our special correspondent in Tennessee who furnishes interesting particulars concerning the occupation of Clarksville.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Starke was admitted to a seat by a vote of 26 to 19. In the House, Mr. Upton was forbidden a seat by 73 against 50.

A report from St. Louis says that the enemy have been driven out of three counties in Missouri. At Cairo a heavy rumbling was heard on Friday in the direction of Columbus. It was supposed the Rebels were blowing up their fortifications, but nothing definite was known.

Our St. Louis correspondent furnishes us a sketch of an address delivered in that city on the 22d, by a life-long Democrat, wherein the orator came unflinchingly out in favor of striking at the real cause of our troubles—Slavery.

By an order from the War Department, we learn that Maj.-Gen. Dix and the Hon. Edwards Pierpont, have been appointed Commissioners to examine the cases of the men still remaining in confinement in the custody of the United States, and to decide whether they should be released, retained, or turned over to the civil authority.

Gen. Halleck telegraphs to Washington that Gen. Curtis has taken Fayetteville, Ark., with numerous prisoners and great quantities of stores, ammunition, baggage, and the like. The enemy retreated in disorderly haste over the Boston Mountains. The Union troops in that section are perfectly enraged at a dastardly, savage trick of the Rebels: 42 officers and men of the 5th Missouri Regiment were poisoned at Mudtown by eating of provisions left behind by the enemy, who had prepared the food for the purpose of causing a general murder.

The Board of Councilmen last evening passed the Tax Levy, for 1862, after sundry amendments, the most prominent of which are as follows: Increasing the amount for advertising from \$30,000 to \$45,000; cutting down the Belgian Pavement from \$100,000 to \$25,000; Central Park from \$115,000 to \$50,000; increasing printing for the Common Council from \$50,000 to \$70,000; construction and repairs from \$150,000 to \$195,000; salaries of Legislative Department from \$25,350 to \$74,550, to cover the pay of the Common Council; and cutting down Wharves, Piers, and Ships from \$175,000 to \$100,000. The Levy still awaits the action of the Board of Aldermen.

By the Hibernian, from Liverpool and Londonderry on the 13th and 14th, we have five days later news. The arrest of British subjects in the United States has been the topic of some discussion in the English Parliament, with no result, however. The news of the Mill Spring victory had been received in England with much satisfaction, and it was thought to furnish most cheering promise for the Union cause. Paris papers say that Slidell has been received by M. Thiers in a pri-

vate capacity, and in that only. Popular demonstrations against the Pope are taking place in several Italian towns. The Great Exhibition Building is finished.

## THE TAX BILL.

Will be reported to the House in a few days. Those who find fault with the delay of the Committee of Ways and Means in submitting it, are not aware of the amount of labor involved in its preparation. It is true there is nothing new to be learned in regard to the principles of taxation, but a vast amount of research is necessary to adapt these principles to the circumstances of the country. To the minutiae it would seem but the work of a few days to mature such a bill, inasmuch as elaborate systems of excise and taxation are already in existence in other parts of the world. But the Committee is obliged to make a thorough examination of all the business interests of the country, and of the various processes in the arts and in manufactures, in order to adopt the provisions of their bill, so that taxation shall bear evenly upon all.

Moreover, the elaborate systems of other countries have grown up by degrees, one tax being imposed after another, and provisions having been added from year to year in accommodation to changes in processes or the condition of business. But we have no system of taxation to build upon, but everything is to be done from the beginning. In order to work intelligently, the Committee must master the details of every kind of business, and its amount. Mr. Stevens and Mr. Morrill are urging the work forward with all the dispatch possible.

## TWO MONTHS OF WAR.

On the 1st day of January, Price was in triumphant possession of South-Western Missouri, having his headquarters at Springfield, its most important city, while his guerrilla bands roamed and ravaged throughout the Southern, Western and Central portions of the State, capturing Government trains on the Osage, threatening the border settlements of Kansas, and burning bridges on the North Missouri Railroad. Now, he is a fugitive in Western Arkansas, with his army greatly reduced by capture and desertion, and Missouri is virtually cleared of armed Rebels.

On the 1st of January, the Burnside Expedition still lingered in the harbors of this city and Annapolis, and seemed unable ever to get away. The delays which had impeded its sailing had given the Rebels full time to ascertain its destination and prepare for giving it a warm reception, so that there was every probability that it would prove a failure. How gloriously it has disappointed all gloomy anticipations, let Roanoke Island and its consequences bear witness.

On the 1st of January, some Three Thousand Union Soldiers—mainly lost at Bull Run and Ball's Bluff—languished in Rebel prisons, where some of them had spent six weary months. Several of them, after seeing their comrades shot dead unwarmed for merely looking out of the window of their prison, had been themselves under sentence of execution, and confined in lonesome dungeons to await their doom. Their friends were holding meetings and raising contributions designed to mitigate their sufferings. To-day, most of them have been restored to their country and friends, and the residue will be within a week. And after giving full measure in exchange for the very last of them, we shall have not less than Fifteen Thousand Rebel prisoners, including Generals, Colonels, and any number of minor officers.

Two months ago, the Rebels held a large portion of Kentucky, and were confidently expecting soon to take the residue. Humphrey Marshall had not eaten his Christmas dinner in Louisville as he had promised, but the Rebels confronted ours on a line drawn through the heart of the State, from Columbus on the West through Bowling Green to the Virginia line. Crittenden's and Zollicoffer's army, strongly posted, barred the way to the Cumberland Gap and East Tennessee. Sidney Johnston and Buckner at Bowling Green covered Nashville and menaced Louisville. Bishop Polk at Columbus—the strongest and most important position in the Great Valley—observed St. Louis and Cairo and barred the way down the Mississippi. Since then, the rout of Crittenden and Zollicoffer at Mill Spring, with the loss of nearly all their material, and the complete demoralization of their followers: the quiet evacuation of Bowling Green and Russellville without firing a shot, have cleared the State of Rebels save in and about Columbus; and this "Western Manassas," if not already evacuated, soon must be.

Two months ago, no Union flag floated in Tennessee, and that State was regarded as the one which of all others had contributed most fighting strength to the rebellion. The loyal mountaineers of the East had been crushed out with bloody sternness; the thousands of unchanged Unionists in the West and Center dared not lift their devotion to the flag of the Free; "King Harris" ruled with a rod of iron, and no man dared dispute his fiat. Nashville had been once resolved on as the Rebel capital, and Beauregard had been dispatched from the army of the Potomac to render the triumph of treason in the State of Jackson secure and perpetual. Floyd, with a division from Western Virginia, and regiment after regiment from every Cotton State, had been called to this frontier with evident premonition that here the decisive struggle was to be made.

At length, the hour, long awaited, had struck. A land force, under Gen. Grant, and a few gunboats, under Com. Foote, entered the Tennessee River. The Rebels had for months devoted their best engineering talent to barring the ascent of this river. Fort Henry was supposed to command it effectually: it stopped the Union fleet just an hour and a quarter, not long enough to let our land force come to their aid. Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland, was next attacked; it was defended by over Twenty Thousand Rebels, under Floyd, Pillow, Buckner, and other Rebel chiefs; it was invested by about Thirty Thousand. Col. Mulligan, with Three Thousand, held Lexington for five days, against eight or nine times his number. Fort

Donelson (immensely stronger) held out three days! It was taken by severe, hard fighting, with which generalship appears to have had little to do, and to have done that little badly; the bombardment by the fleet, though gallant and heavy, seems to have harmed the besieged very little. The contest was virtually decided by the heroic repulse of the great sortie made against Gen. McClernand's division, where Three or Four Thousand Unionists withstood for hours the utmost efforts of Twelve Thousand Rebels. The assault by Gen. Smith's division that soon followed was less bloody, but not less heroic nor less effective. The siege and capture of Fort Donelson was the most sanguinary and the most decisive passage of arms that ever occurred within the limits of our country, and the prisoners taken nearly equal in number all our soldiers actually engaged at Bull Run.

The evacuation of Bowling Green had doubtless become a military necessity; but the fact that it had speaks volumes. To quit a position so strong by nature and by art, and steal out of Kentucky without firing a shot, is in effect to admit that the Rebels should never have been there.

But that Nashville—the capital of Tennessee, and a city of great manufacturing resources as well as military importance—should have been given up without a struggle, is utterly amazing. To give up that city is to surrender three-fourths of Tennessee to the Union. It is the focus of a rich agricultural region, and is a better mart for procuring the food of a great army than the Rebels have left. How can they have given up such a city if there was any fight left in them? If they would not fight for Nashville, for what would they fight?

—Such are the fruits of two months' warfare in the very heart of an unusually stormy and inclement Winter. May we not reasonably look forward to the next two months with hope?

## OF BLOCKADES AND BLOCK-HEADS.

Hard-up men turn short corners; and debaters who think the last word better than the best logic, will keep talking long after they have nothing to say. Aepo did not write the Fable of the Wolf and the Lamb without meaning something; and when good churchmen eat meat in Lent they must compromise by making some fishy excuse for the sin. The most careless reader may see that in this matter of the blockade of our coast, English presses and parliamentarians are at their wit's end for some quibble which will seem, in international eyes, to justify a national crime. They would like to do wrong, but they would like to do it by a severe process of reasoning. Now, against them, we pit the man they pretend to pity, viz., Jefferson Davis, the putative President of the putative Confederacy. What says Jeff? Just this:

"While the acquiescence of foreign nations to a pretended blockade has deprived us of our commerce with them, it is fast making us a self-supporting and independent people. The blockade, if effectual and permanent, will only serve to divert our industry from the production of articles for export, and supply it for supplying articles of domestic use."

Here, richness—the very cream of the cream of logical sequence. The blockade is a rascally "pretended blockade," which by its unwarrantable pretensions has secured "the acquiescence of foreign nations," and has "deprived us of our commerce," which is much for "a pretended blockade" to do. Then Jeff, takes the other tack, and comes in with a potent "if." "If," he says, "the blockade be effectual and permanent," "Now, the kind reader will please to notice that the said blockade was, 'by the acquiescence of foreign nations,' though 'pretended,' 'fast making' the Rebels 'a self-supporting and independent people,' in the first paragraph; while in the very next, doubts are expressed whether it be 'effectual and permanent.' Thus it will be seen that Jeff, fishes in his desperation with two hooks. He has one kind of bait for home use, and another to catch gudgeons in English waters. The blockade is permanent and isn't permanent; it is effectual and isn't effectual—but it has been 'acquiesced in by 'foreign nations,' which, with reasonable folk, should certainly settle the question; for if that isn't an 'effectual blockade' which is 'acquiesced in by foreign nations,' we should like to know, in the name of old Lord Stowell's ghost, what is. We say that any measure which will make slaveholders 'a self-supporting and independent people' must be 'effectual' and tremendously and miraculously effectual.

But notwithstanding this, according to The (London) Herald, our blockade is not an "effectual" one, and Jeff's exhortations and admissions are simply gratuitous. "The fleet," feebly trumpets this Herald, "which the Federal Government ought to employ in the blockade, it devotes to predatory incursions on 'the enemy's territory.' The obvious reply to this limp assertion is—Then why don't your merchantmen sail in, load up with the dear, beautiful cotton, and sail out again? Why don't you do this while we are engaged in some one of these numerous incursions on the enemy's territory. (Beautiful English, The Herald's is, we may say, in passing.) Why not watch your chance while the incursions are going on? To our simple mind, that seems to be an "effectual blockade," which cannot be broken without a pitched battle, no matter which side may be worsted. As for our "predatory incursions," we never heard of or read of a blockading fleet which did not, now and then, make a dash at the enemy's coast. The idea of The Herald is that the ships of the blockading squadron must remain with sails stowed away below, and the best bower rooted in the mud; as if a blockading squadron must not from the necessity of its situation often run to sea for safety, and often, as a matter of prudence, shift its position. Why not say that such a fleet must be commanded by an Admiral; must consist of two ships-of-the-line and three sloops; and that the Captains must never go on shore except at 10 1/2 o'clock in the morning, in a cutter painted light green, and then only in full rig? These illustrations may seem absurd; but they are no more so than The Herald's dictum that we "lose our right of

"blockade" if we send a cutter's crew to burn a hostile village.

One subterfuge may be as good as another morally; but really, for decency's sake, the English press should turn out *prima facie* special pleadings better than these which insult the common sense of mankind, by denying to the United States supreme jurisdiction over their own harbors. To that jurisdiction there is no limit known to the Law of Nations, which was established long before any jackanapes scribbled for the London press, and will remain established long after the manufacturers of this nonsense have eaten their last plate of beef and drank their last pot of beer.

## PARTIES AND PLENDER.

These exposures of Shoddy, Horse, and "other contract frauds on the Government," most seriously damage the Republican party," remarked a personal friend of dubious politics the other evening. Let us think of this:

Whether there will, or will not, be any Republican party in future years, we do not ask nor care. Our ardent wish is that this war may so end that there will be no need of, no work for one, but that the public attention may be at once concentrated on the sorely-needed retrenchment of our National Expenditures.

The frauds on the Treasury during the last year were enormous. Any one familiar with public affairs must know that this result was inevitable, whatever the party in power. Here was an immense Army and a powerful Navy to be created in a hurry; here were five hundred regiments to be raised, clothed, armed, equipped, and transported to the seat of war; here were cannon to cast, small arms to purchase, to rifle or otherwise adapt to use; here were transports to hire by the score, ammunition to provide by the millions of worth, and everything else entirely out of the line of our National experience to be effected with more reference to celerity than economy. Meantime, our Capital was beleaguered, and for a time isolated by traitors who swarmed in every department of the public service and who have been enabled to add immensely to the expensiveness of the Grand Army by a partial blockade of the Potomac. To suppose that a gigantic war sprung upon a nation under such circumstances would not afford to jobbers and speculators safe opportunities for stealing and swindling, is to be simply absurd. Had George Washington been President, surrounded by the ablest and most upright men this country has yet produced, there would doubtless have been extensive peculations and robberies. No possible conjunction of transcendent ability with stainless integrity in high places could have wholly avoided them.

The Republican party will not be seriously blamed for the flagrant robberies which have been perpetrated, and which we fear will still be perpetrated, by men of all parties, and no principles who crowd the ante-chambers of Secretaries and Heads of Bureaus in eager quest of contracts and jobs, unless it is made a consenting party to those frauds through the complaisance or misplaced lenity of its Representatives in Congress. Let the Grand Inquest of the Nation deal searchingly and sternly with all public robbers and leeches, whether of high or low degree, and no one need fear that the People will not prove discerning and just. Not the corruptions and abuses that a party drags to light, but those it covers up, are calculated to prove its ruin.

Congress has been prompt, fearless, and thorough in the raising and in the doings of Investigating Committees. So far as we can ascertain, these Committees have delved and probed without the smallest respect to persons, and what they have learned they have faithfully set forth. Never was exposure to public reprobation more unreserved and inexorable.

What now remains to be done is to pass judgment on the culprits and their official accomplices, and, where possible, command execution. Let it be seen that the condemnation of Congress is no vague, barren formula, but a leading forth to deserved punishment. Whatever is right and honest, that let Congress do, whether by way of vindicating an upright public servant unjustly assailed, or reprobating one who has pondered to private greed at the expense of the Nation. Let no violence of popular clamor, no impertinent pleadings of personal or party affinities, no fear or favor, swerve Members one hair from the strict and straight line of justice. "Right wrongs no man," and Congress should sternly and steadfastly walk the narrow path of duty.

## THE TRADE OF THE BRITISH PROVINCES.

Mr. Ward, in reporting from the House Committee on Commerce recently, on our Commercial Relations with the British Provinces, fully justifies the diversion of time and of labor which the inquiry must have cost. Pressing as the domestic questions are at the hour, it is no time to overlook matters of extrinsic but enduring interest. The war will have an end. The interests of commerce, by which the Nation in such large part has augmented its wealth and enlarged its national powers, are enduring, and the country owes its thanks to the members of the Committee on Commerce for bringing so much industry and judgment to bear upon our Treaty relations with the Provinces.

The magnitude of the business which has grown up under the operation of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, must be surprising to those who have not closely examined the subject. At present the trade with Canada alone approaches annually to \$40,000,000; and if we look at some of the tabular statements embodied in the report submitted to Congress, we shall see how this commerce has grown up and thrived under the convention of 1854. We shall also see, in part, wherein lie the objections urged against that convention, as operating to the comparative disadvantage of our exporters and manufacturers, since the introduction of discriminating duties by the Canadian Parliament in favor of direct importation by the St. Lawrence. First, however, we may look at the broad fact—as illustrating in a measure the tendency of a fair reciprocal system of trade between the two countries—

that the year before the treaty came into operation the value of direct imports into the Provinces was \$21,171,756, and the value of exports \$12,501,372, making the entire trade by the St. Lawrence, in which we could only have participated to an inappreciable extent—\$33,673,128. In the following year after the treaty with this country came into operation, the Provincial imports by the St. Lawrence were \$11,494,028, and the exports \$8,195,500—in all \$19,689,528. There was thus a decrease on the St. Lawrence business, for the year, of \$13,983,600—an amount which hardly represents what was thus immediately transferred to the carrying trade of the United States.

Since 1854 to the last officially-reported year, the